NUMB. CCLXXV.

The SPECTATOR.

——tribus Anticyris caput insanabile—— Juv.

Tuesday, January 15. 1712.

Was Yesterday engaged in an Assembly of Virtuoso's, where one of them produced many curious Observations, which he had lately made in the Anatomy of an Human Body. Another of the Company communicated to us several new Discoveries, which he had also made on the same Subject, by the help of very fine Glasses. This gave Birth to a great Variety of uncommon Remarks, and furnished Discourse for the remaining part of the Day.

The different Opinions which were started on this Occasion presented to my Imagination so many Ideas, that by mixing with those which were already there, they employed my Fancy all the last Night, and composed a very wild Extravagant Dream.

I was invited, methoughts, to the Dissection of a Man's Head and of a *Coquet's Heart*, which were both of them laid on a Table before us. An imaginary Operator opened the first with a great deal of Nicety, which, upon a cursory and superficial View, appeared like the Head of another Man; but, upon applying our Glasses to it, we made a very strange Discovery, namely, that what we looked upon as Brain, were not such in reality, but an Heap of Fibrous Materials wound up in that Shape and Texture, and packed together with wonderful Art in the several Cavities of the Skull. For, as *Homer* tells us, that the Blood of the Gods is not real Blood, but only something like it; so we found that the Brain of a Beau is not real Brain, but only something like it.

The *Pineal Gland*, which many of our Modern Philosophers suppose to be the Seat of the Soul, was very strong of Essence and Orange-Flower Water, and was encompassed with a kind of Horizon, cut into a thousand little Facets or Surfaces, which were imperceptible to the naked Eye, insomuch that the Soul, if there had been any there, must have been always taken up in contemplating her own Beauties.

We observed a large *Antrum* or Cavity in the Sinciput, that was filled with Ribbons, Lace and Embroidery, wrought together in a most curious Piece of Network, the Parts of which were likewise imperceptible to the naked Eye. Another of these Pericraniums or Cavities, was stuffed with Invisible Billet-doux, Love-Letters, pricked Dances, and other Records of the same nature. In another we found a kind of Powder, which set the whole Company a Sneezing, and by the Scent discovered it self to be right *Spanish*. The several other Cells were stored with Commodities of the same kind, of which it would be tedious to give the Reader an exact Inventory.

There was a large Cavity on each side of the Head, which I must not omit. That on the right side was filled with Fictions, Flatteries and Falsehoods, Vows, Promises and Protestations; that on the left with Oaths and Imprecations. There issued out a *Duct* from each of these Cells, which ran into the Root of the Tongue, where both joined together, and passed forward in one common *Duct* to the Tip of it. We discovered several little Roads or Canals running from the Ear into the Brain, and took particular Care to trace them out through their several Passages. One of them extended it self to a bundle of Sonnets and little Musical Instruments. Others ended in several Bladders which were filled either with Wind or Froth. But the large Canal entered into a great Cavity of the Skull, from whence there went another Canal into the Tongue. This great Cavity was filled with a kind of Spongy Substance, which the *French* Anatomists call *Galimatias*, and the *English*, Nonsense.

The Skins of the Forehead were extreamly tough and thick, and what very much surprized us, had not in them any single Blood-Vessel that we were able to discover, either with or without our Glasses; from whence we concluded, that the Party when alive must have been entirely deprived of the Faculty of Blushing.

The *Os Cribriforme* was exceedingly stuffed, and in some places damaged with Snuff. We could not but take Notice in particular of that small Muscle, which is not often discovered in Dissections, and draws the Nose upwards, when it expresses the Contempt which the Owner of it has, upon seeing any thing he does not like, or hearing any thing he does not understand. I need not tell my learned Reader, this is that Muscle which performs the Motion so often mentioned by the *Latin* Poets, when they talk of a Man's cocking his Nose, or playing the Rhinoceros.

We did not find any thing very remarkable in the Eye, saving only, that the *Musculi Amatorii*, or as we may translate it into *English*, the *Ogling Muscles*, were very much worn and decayed with use; whereas

whereas on the contrary, the *Elevator* or the Muſcle which turns the Eye towards Heaven, did not appear to have been uſed at all.

I have only mentioned in this Diſſection ſuch new Diſcoveries as we were able to make, and have not taken any Notice of thoſe Parts which are to be met with in common Heads. As for the Skull, the Face, and indeed the whole outward ſhape and figure of the Head, we could not diſcover any difference from what we obſerve in the Heads of other Men. We were informed, that the Perſon to whom this Head belonged, had paſſed for *a Man* above five and thirty Years; during which time he Eat and Drank like other People, dreſſed well, talked loud, laught frequently, and on particular Occaſions had acquitted himſelf tolerably at a Ball or an Aſſembly; to which one of the Company added, that a certain knot of Ladies took him for a Wit. He was cut off in the flower of his Age by the blow of a Paring-Shovel, having been ſurprized by an eminent Citizen, as he was tendring ſome Civilities to his Wife.

When we had thoroughly examin'd this Head with all its Apartments, and its ſeveral kinds of Furniture, we put up the Brain, ſuch as it was, into its proper place, and laid it aſide under a broad piece of Scarlet Cloth, in order to be *prepared*, and kept in a great Repoſitory of Diſſections; our Operator telling us that the Preparation would not be ſo difficult as that of another Brain, for that he had obſerved ſeveral of the little Pipes and Tubes which ran through the Brain were already filled with a kind of Mercurial Subſtance, which he looked upon to be true Quick-Silver.

He applied himſelf in the next place to the *Coquet's Heart*, which he likewiſe laid open with great Dexterity. There occurred to us many Particularities in this Diſſection; but being unwilling to burden my Reader's Memory too much, I ſhall reſerve this Subject for the Speculation of another Day.

The Firſt and Second Volumes of the SPECTATOR *in 8vo are now ready to be delivered to the Subſcribers, by* J. Tonſon *at* Shakeſpear's *Head over-againſt* Catherine-ſtreet *in the* Strand.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

At the Deſire of ſeveral Ladies of Quality.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians,

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this preſent Tueſday, the 15th Day of January, will be preſented the laſt Reviv'd Play call'd, The Tempeſt: or The Inchanted Iſland. As it was altered from Shakeſpear by Sir Will. D'avenant, and the late Mr. Dryden, Four Hours at. With new Scenes, Machines, and all the Original Decorations proper to the Play. By her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

The Conſort of Muſick which was to have been for the benefit of Mrs. Hemmings the 24th of December laſt, being put off by the Indiſpoſition of ſome of the Performers, will be performed in York Buildings on Friday next, being the 18th Inſtant. Note, That the Tickets of the 24th of December laſt to come in, and are to be had at St. James's Coffee-houſe in St. James's ſtreet, at Mr. Charles Lillie's in the Strand by Beaufort Buildings, at Tom's Coffee-houſe in Ruſſel-ſtreet in Covent Garden, at Button's Coffee-houſe near Temple-bar, at Squire's Coffee-houſe near Grays-Inn, Holborn, at the Hamburgh Coffee-houſe in Birchin-Lane, and at John's Coffee-houſe in Suethin's Ally near the Royal Exchange.

At the Leopard upon the Royal Exchange, in Cornhill Stairs, The ſhop of Mrs. Baldern, Deceaſed, are all ſorts of fine Lace and Muſlins, and all ſorts of Millinary Wares to be ſold very reaſonable Rates.

A Courſe of Experiments in order to demonſtrate the Laws of the Gravitations of Fluids. The various properties of the Air in relation to its Weight, Spring, Neceſſity in reſpect in the Conſervation of Life, and Production of Flame, etc. Together with ſeveral new Experiments touching Light and Colours, pronounceable on the Attrition of Bodies. Experiments concerning different Refraction of a Ray of Light paſſing thro' different Figures. Experiments ſhewing the Effect of Vitiated Air on the Living Animals. Experiments touching the Tranſparency of ſeveral Bodies. Dark under the Circumſtances of a Vacuum and Attrition, as Sulphur, Sealing-Wax and Pitch. The Nature of Viſion explained, the various Properties of Optick Glaſſes demonſtrated. By Mr. Fra. Hauksbee's, Sen. F. R. S. in Hind-Court, Fleetſtreet, Monday the 21ſt inſtant, where Subſcriptions are taken in, and Accounts more at large given. He being the only Perſon to the late Improvements are owing. N. B. There will be Diſplaying the ſeveral Heads.

The late Sergeant Streeter's Collection of Drawings will be ſold by Auction on Thurſday the 17th Inſt at January, at the two blue Flower Pots next to St. Church, Soho. The Sale will begin exactly at 4 in the and ſo continue every Evening (Sundays excepted) till which will be in 12 Days, it being reſolved to ſell 20 Night. N. B. This is a moſt extraordinary Collection, Sergeant and his Father having been upwards of 70 Years the ſame. To enumerate the Maſters, would make tiſement too tedious, it conſiſting of all the Eminent that have made any Figure in the World; the like exposed to Sale for many Years paſt, and is worth the the Curious. To be ſeen this Day and to Morrow Morning to 4 in the Afternoon.

A Houſe with 3 Rooms on a Floor, Conveniencies with out Houſes, Garden and Orchard ing Houſe of George Wats Eſq; to be Lett at Hartin within a Mile of Hartford. Enquire of Mr. Umpſtan, Village, or Mr. Gardners, in Southampton-ſtreet Covent

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